

EXHIBIT 016

U.S. Patent No. 7,769,893 (Goossens)**“Integrated circuit and method for establishing transactions”**

'9893 Patent Claim	Samsung Product Including Exynos System on Chip ¹
<p>4. A method for exchanging messages in an integrated circuit comprising a plurality of modules, the messages between the plurality of modules being exchanged via a network</p>	<p>Without conceding that the preamble of claim 4 of the '9893 Patent is limiting, the Samsung Galaxy A53 (hereinafter, the “Samsung product”) performs a method for exchanging messages in an integrated circuit comprising a plurality of modules, the messages between the plurality of modules being exchanged via a network, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>The Samsung product includes an integrated circuit. For example, the Samsung product includes the Exynos 1280 system on chip (hereinafter, the “Exynos SoC”).</p> <div data-bbox="632 537 867 1037" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="512 1127 989 1175">Samsung Galaxy A53</p> <p data-bbox="684 1192 819 1218">Exynos 1280</p>

¹ The Samsung product is charted as a representative product made used, sold, offered for sale, and/or imported by Samsung. The citations to evidence contained herein are illustrative and should not be understood to be limiting. The right is expressly reserved to rely upon additional or different evidence, or to rely on additional citations to the evidence cited already cited herein.

U.S. Patent No. 7,769,893 (Goossens)

“Integrated circuit and method for establishing transactions”

'9893 Patent Claim	Samsung Product Including Exynos System on Chip ¹																										
	<p data-bbox="499 250 1549 289">https://semiconductor.samsung.com/processor/showcase/smartphone/</p> <p data-bbox="499 326 1835 397">The Exynos SoC comprises a plurality of modules, for example Arm Cortex-A78 core, Cortex-A55 core, Arm Mali-G68 GPU, and AI Engine with NPU:</p> <h2 data-bbox="514 402 873 459">Specifications</h2> <hr data-bbox="514 483 1879 490"/> <table border="1" data-bbox="514 516 1879 1122"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Exynos 1280</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>CPU</td><td>Cortex[®]-A78 x 2 + Cortex[®]-A55 x 6</td></tr> <tr> <td>GPU</td><td>Mali[™]-G68</td></tr> <tr> <td>AI</td><td>AI Engine with NPU</td></tr> <tr> <td>Modem</td><td>5G NR Sub-6GHz 2.55Gbps (DL) / 1.28Gbps (UL) 5G NR mmWave 1.84Gbps (DL) / 0.92Gbps (UL) LTE Cat.18 6CC 1.2Gbps (DL) / Cat.18 2CC 200Mbps (UL)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Connectivity</td><td>WiFi 802.11ac MIMO with Dual-band (2.4/5G), Bluetooth[®] 5.2, FM Radio Rx</td></tr> <tr> <td>GNSS</td><td>Quad-constellation multi-signal for L1 and L5 GNSS</td></tr> <tr> <td>Camera</td><td>Up to 108MP in single camera mode, Single-camera 32MP @30fps</td></tr> <tr> <td>Video</td><td>4K 30fps encoding and decoding</td></tr> <tr> <td>Display</td><td>Full HD+@120Hz</td></tr> <tr> <td>Memory</td><td>LPDDR4x</td></tr> <tr> <td>Storage</td><td>UFS v2.2</td></tr> <tr> <td>Process</td><td>5nm</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="499 1146 1486 1182">https://semiconductor.samsung.com/resources/brochure/Exynos1280.pdf</p> <p data-bbox="499 1222 1850 1338">The Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product utilizes Arteris network on chip interconnect technology, and/or a derivative thereof, (collectively, the “Arteris NoC”) for exchanging messages:</p>		Exynos 1280	CPU	Cortex [®] -A78 x 2 + Cortex [®] -A55 x 6	GPU	Mali [™] -G68	AI	AI Engine with NPU	Modem	5G NR Sub-6GHz 2.55Gbps (DL) / 1.28Gbps (UL) 5G NR mmWave 1.84Gbps (DL) / 0.92Gbps (UL) LTE Cat.18 6CC 1.2Gbps (DL) / Cat.18 2CC 200Mbps (UL)	Connectivity	WiFi 802.11ac MIMO with Dual-band (2.4/5G), Bluetooth [®] 5.2, FM Radio Rx	GNSS	Quad-constellation multi-signal for L1 and L5 GNSS	Camera	Up to 108MP in single camera mode, Single-camera 32MP @30fps	Video	4K 30fps encoding and decoding	Display	Full HD+@120Hz	Memory	LPDDR4x	Storage	UFS v2.2	Process	5nm
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	<div data-bbox="510 250 1251 1166">  <p>Samsung</p> <p>Samsung uses Arteris FlexNoC IP in its Samsung Exynos mobile phone applications processors, digital baseband modems, 4K SUHD TVs and Artik IoT modules.</p> <p>LEARN MORE »</p> </div> <p data-bbox="499 1182 1713 1218">https://web.archive.org/web/20210514110614/https://www.arteris.com/customers</p>

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	<p data-bbox="590 250 1577 418">Arteris IP FlexNoC® Interconnect Licensed by Samsung's System LSI Business for Digital TV Chips</p> <p data-bbox="888 456 1278 488">by Kurt Shuler, on April 23, 2019</p> <p data-bbox="543 537 1598 662">CAMPBELL, Calif. –April 23, 2019– Arteris IP, the world's leading supplier of innovative, silicon-proven network-on-chip (NoC) interconnect semiconductor intellectual property, today announced that Samsung's System LSI Business has renewed multiple Arteris IP FlexNoC Interconnect licenses for use in multiple high-performance digital TV (DTV) processing chips utilizing Samsung's latest semiconductor technology process nodes.</p> <p data-bbox="548 699 1535 873"> “Over many years, FlexNoC interconnect IP has helped us accelerate implementation of our digital TV chip designs on our latest semiconductor process nodes. This core interconnect technology is required to develop complex and highly optimized chips in a predictable, low-risk fashion.” </p> <p data-bbox="1304 971 1572 1019">SAMSUNG</p> <p data-bbox="1224 1081 1568 1101"><i>Jaeyoul Lee, Vice President, Samsung Electronics</i></p> <p data-bbox="543 1159 1619 1219">Samsung first licensed FlexNoC interconnect IP in 2010. Since then, Samsung has used Arteris interconnect IP to enable complex SoC architectures in chips like the Exynos mobile processors and other electronic systems.</p> <p data-bbox="501 1252 1577 1284">https://www.arteris.com/press-releases/samsung-lsi-dtv-arteris-ip-flexnoc</p>

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	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Arteris Interconnect IP Solution Selected by Samsung for Mobile SoC Deployment</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">by Kurt Shuler, on November 02, 2010</p> <p>Network-on-Chip (NoC) interconnect technology leader enables higher performance and more cost effective designs for mobile phone systems-on-chip (SoCs)</p> <p>SUNNYVALE, California — November 2, 2010 — Arteris, Inc., a leading supplier of on-chip interconnect IP solutions, today announced that Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., has selected Arteris' interconnect solutions for multiple chips within Samsung's mobile SOC products. Samsung chose Arteris interconnect IP to support the high speed inter-chip communication requirements in next generation mobile SOC products.</p> <p>“<i>The Arteris interconnect IP offers us a convenient solution to handle the high speed communication needed between our SoC and external modem IC. Our customers will benefit from the lower BOM cost and power consumption as a result of this IP. We look forward to Arteris' interconnect IP helping us shorten development schedules and lower risks associated with compatibility.</i></p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Thomas Kim, Vice President, SoC Platform Development, System LSI, Samsung Electronics</small></p> <p>https://www.arteris.com/press-releases/pr_2010_nov_02?hsLang=en-us</p>

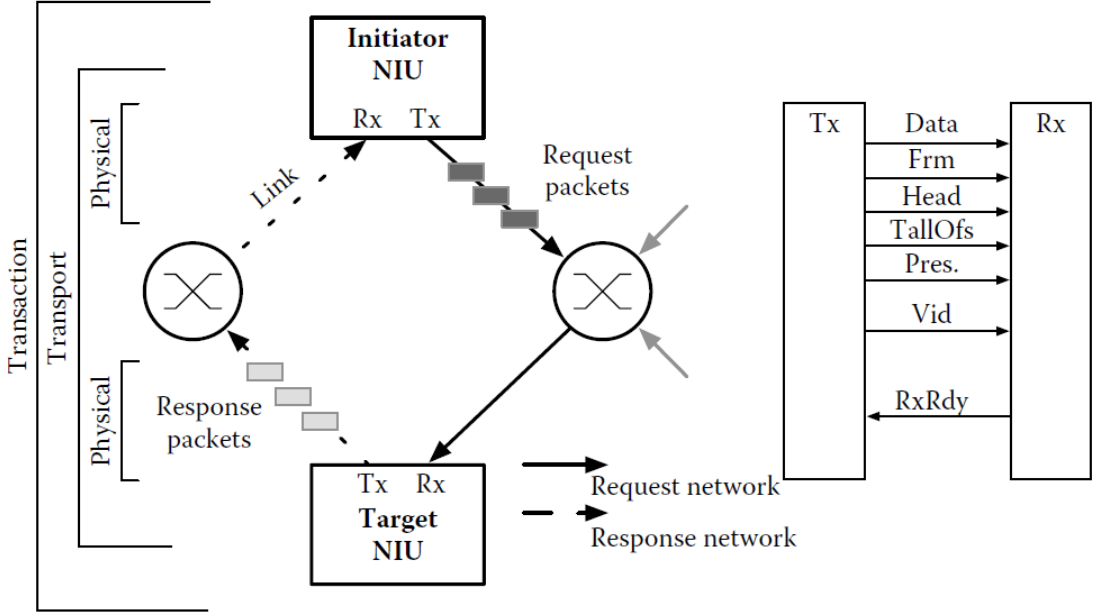
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	<p>The Arteris NoC exchanges messages between the plurality of modules via a network in the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product.</p> <p>For example, in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

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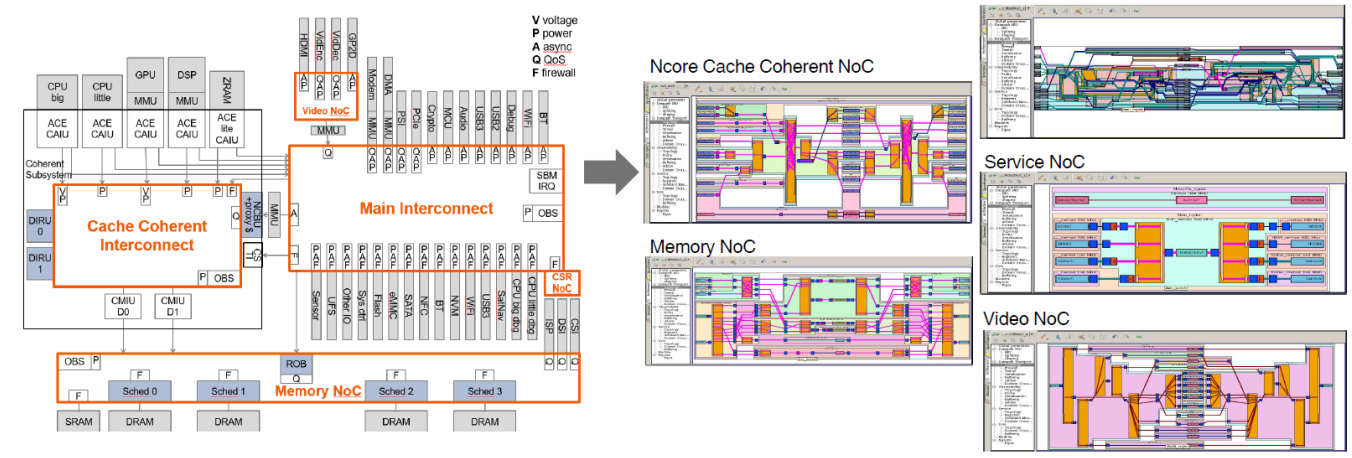

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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 312-313; see <i>id</i> at 308 (explaining that Chapter 11 of this book describes the function of the Arteris NoC: “In this chapter we will present an MPSoC platform [...] using Arteris NoC as communication infrastructure.”).</p> <p>As a further illustration, a large SoC, such as the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product may include multiple classes of Arteris NoC network:</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Logical Interconnect Topology Development</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FLEXNOC & NCORE INTERCONNECT IPS DEFINE ARCHITECTURES</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ArChip16 Example: Large SoCs have multiple classes of interconnect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Non-coherent, Coherent, Control/Status, Observability, etc. • Ncore & FlexNoC interconnects are managed separately from IP blocks, increasing design flexibility <p style="text-align: center;">  ISPD 2018, 28 March 2018 Copyright © 2018 Arteris IP 9 </p> <p>See Physical Interconnect Aware Network Optimizer, http://www.ispd.cc/slides/2018/s7_2.pdf, at slide 9.</p>
wherein a message issued by an addressing module M comprises:	<p>Without conceding that the preamble of claim 4 of the '9893 Patent is limiting, a message issued by an addressing module M in the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product via the Arteris NoC comprises first information indicative of a location of an addressed message receiving module S within the network and is comprised of (1) a connection identifier identifying two or more message receiving modules S and (2) an identifier of a passive network interface means associated with the addressed message receiving module S, and second information indicative of</p>

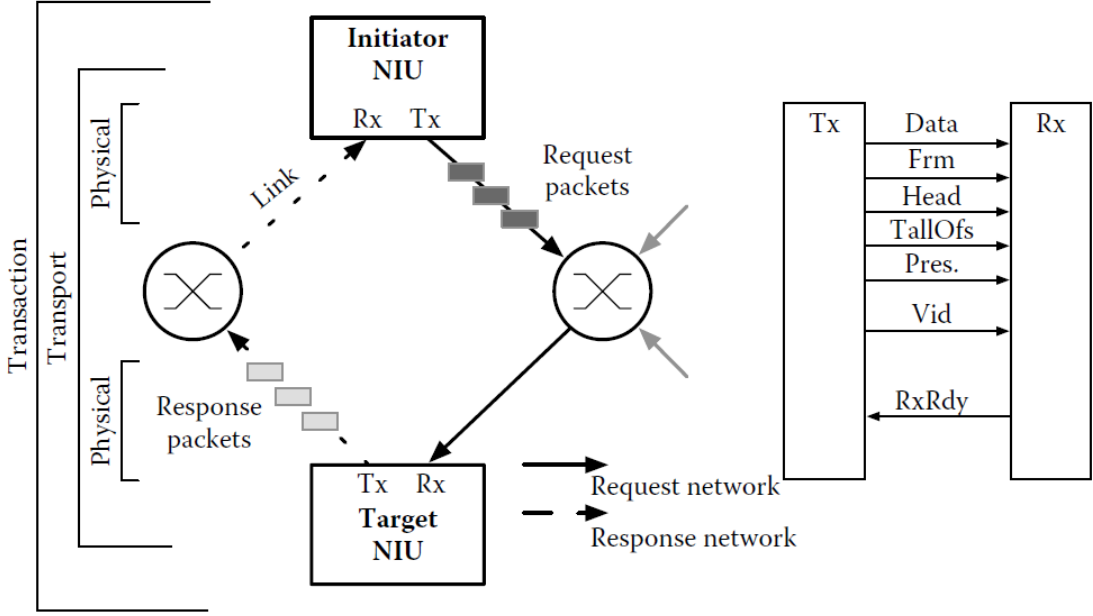
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<p>first information indicative of a location of an addressed message receiving module S within the network and is comprised of (1) a connection identifier identifying two or more message receiving modules S and (2) an identifier of a passive network interface means associated with the addressed message receiving module S, and second information indicative of a particular location within the addressed message receiving module S, such as</p>	<p>a particular location within the addressed message receiving module S, such as a memory, or a register address, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC used in the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

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a memory, or a register address,	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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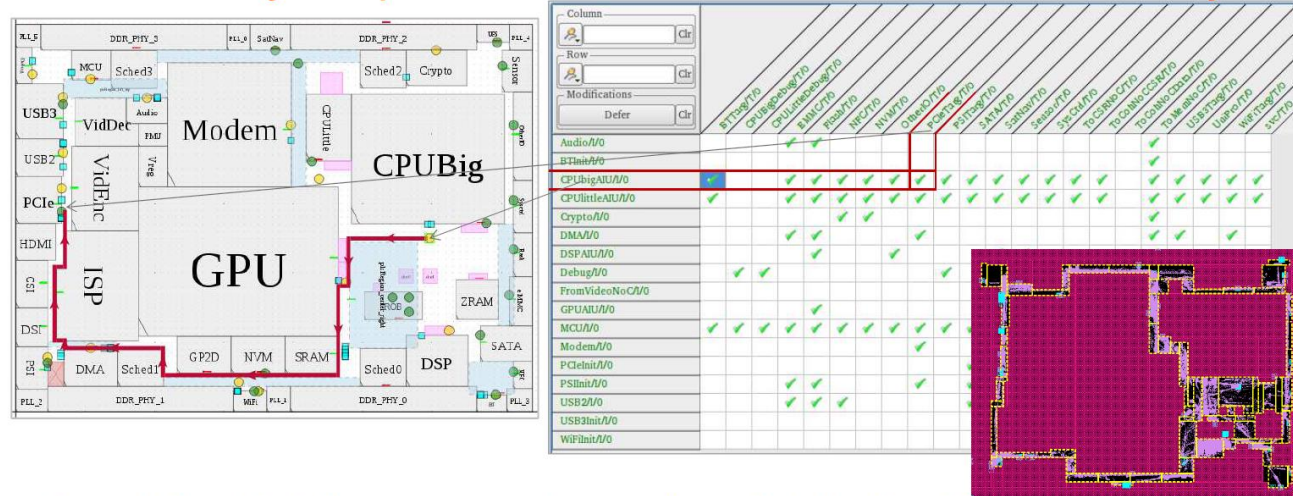
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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 311, 312-313.</p> <p>As a further illustration, connections between initiator module NIUs (e.g., “CPUbigAIU/1/0”) and two or more target module NIUs (e.g., “ETTarg/T/0,” “EMMC/T/0,” “Flash/T/0,” “NFC/T0,” “PCIeTarg/T/0,” etc.) within the Arteris NoC may be defined by a connectivity table:</p>

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[illegible]

Connectivity Map → Interconnect Connections → Layout



DC-Topographical

- Connectivity table defines interconnect connections within the floorplan
- Routes must pass through available channels in the floorplan
- Connectivity passes from initiator NIU to switch, to link, to RC buffers and finally to target NIU

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See Physical Interconnect Aware Network Optimizer, http://www.ispd.cc/slides/2018/s7_2.pdf, at slide 12.

As a further illustration, the “Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based” and the packets, which have “header and necker cells [that] contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address,” are “transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes”:

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	<p data-bbox="514 267 919 305">11.3.1.2 Transport Layer</p> <p data-bbox="514 321 1709 743">The Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based. Packets created by NIUs are transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes. All packets are comprised of cells: a header cell, an optional necker cell, and possibly one or more data cells (for packet definition see Figure 11.2; further descriptions of the packet can be found in the next subsection). The header and necker cells contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address. Formats for request packets and response packets are slightly different, with the key difference being the presence of an additional cell, the necker, in the request packet to provide detailed addressing information to the target.</p> <p data-bbox="504 764 1854 841"><i>See</i> Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 313.</p> <p data-bbox="504 883 1829 995">As a further example, the packets sent in the Arteris NoC are “composed of cells that are organized into fields, with each field carrying specific information,” including “Slave address” and “Slave offset”:</p>

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	Field	Size	Function
	Opcode	4 bits/3 bits	Packet type: 4 bits for requests, 3 bits for responses
	MstAddr	User Defined	Master address
	SlvAddr	User Defined	Slave address
	SlvOfs	User Defined	Slave offset
	Len	User Defined	Payload length
	Tag	User Defined	Tag
	Prs	User defined (0 to 2)	Pressure
	BE	0 or 4 bits	Byte enables
	CE	1 bit	Cell error
	Data	32 bits	Packet payload
	Info	User Defined	Information about services supported by the NoC
	Err	1 bit	Error bit
	StartOfs	2 bits	Start offset
	StopOfs	2 bits	Stop offset
	WrpSize	4 bits	Wrap size
	Rsv	Variable	Reserved
	CtlId	4 bits/3 bits	Control identifier, for control packets only
	CtlInfo	Variable	Control information, for control packets only
	EvtId	User defined	Event identifier, for event packets only

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	<p>FIGURE 11.2 NTTP packet structure.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 313, 314-315.</p> <p>As a further example, “[i]nitiator NIU units...translate[] AHB transactions AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP” and the “AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding” with the table “receiv[ing] 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size”:</p>

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	<p>11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p>Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p> <p>As further example, “[f]or the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2)”:</p>

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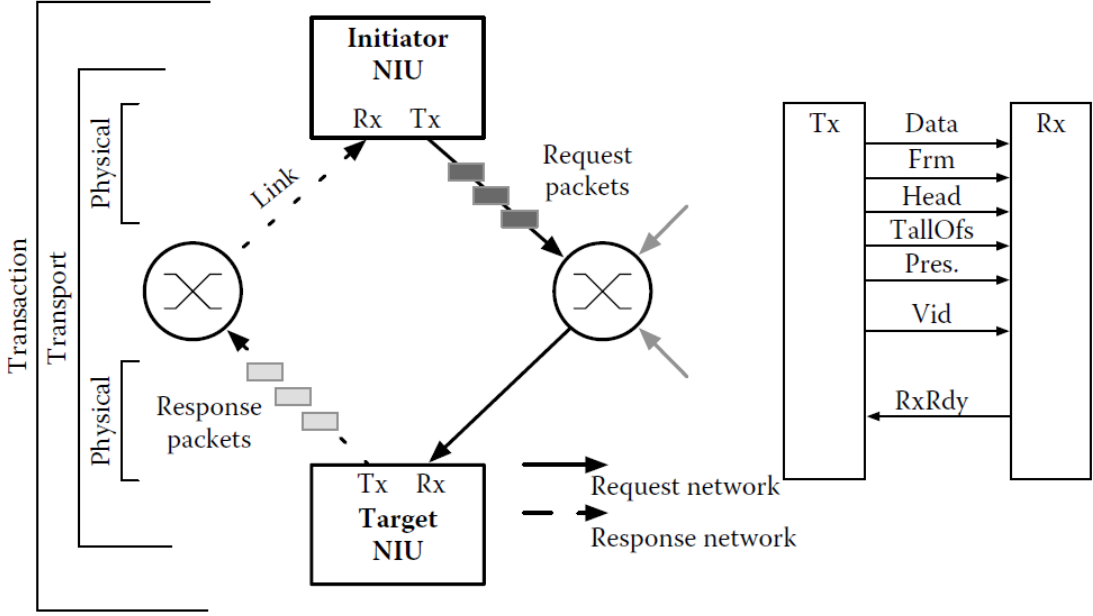
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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always</p> <p><i>Id.</i> at 318.</p>
<p>the method including the steps of:</p> <p>(a) issuing from said addressing module M a message request including said first information, said second information, and data and/or connection properties to an address</p>	<p>The Arteris NoC utilized by the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product issues from said addressing module M a message request including said first information, said second information, and data and/or connection properties to an address translation unit included as part of an active network interface module associated with said addressing module M, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC used in the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p>

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translation unit included as part of an active network interface module associated with said addressing module M,	<p data-bbox="562 267 1018 308">11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p data-bbox="562 324 1822 500">The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul data-bbox="632 544 1348 641" style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p data-bbox="562 685 1822 816">As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU's transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p> <p data-bbox="548 844 1843 1255">on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 312-313.</p> <p>As a further illustration, connections between initiator module NIUs (e.g., “CPUbigAIU/1/0”) and two or more target module NIUs (e.g., “ETTarg/T/0,” “EMMC/T/0,” “Flash/T/0,” “NFC/T0,” “PCIeTarg/T/0,” etc.) within the Arteris NoC may be defined by a connectivity table:</p>

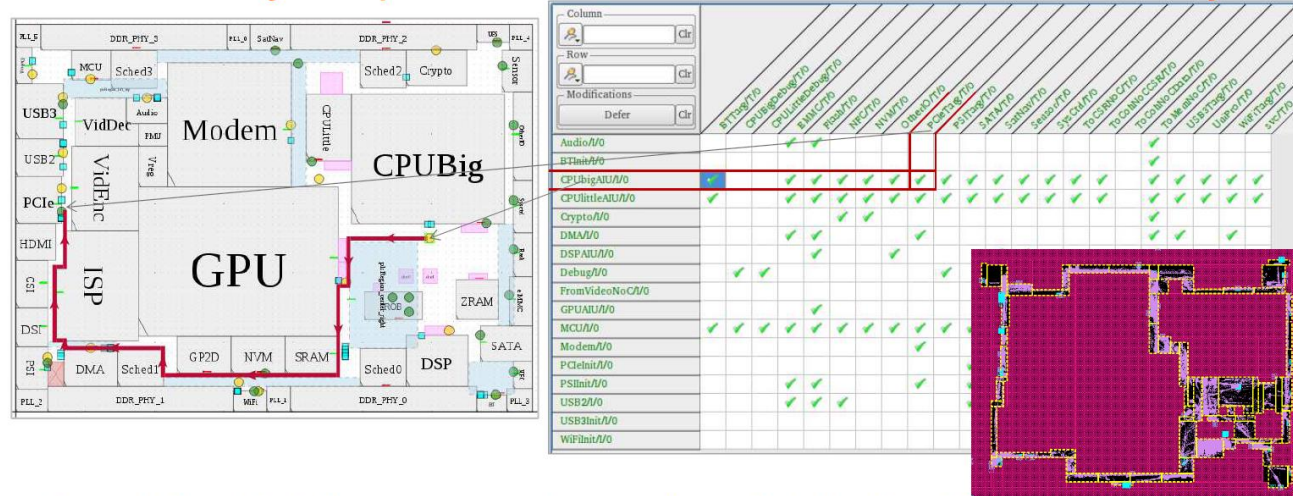
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See Physical Interconnect Aware Network Optimizer, http://www.ispd.cc/slides/2018/s7_2.pdf, at slide 12.

As a further illustration, the “Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based” and the packets, which have “header and necker cells [that] contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address,” are “transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes”:

U.S. Patent No. 7,769,893 (Goossens)

“Integrated circuit and method for establishing transactions”

'9893 Patent Claim	Samsung Product Including Exynos System on Chip ¹
	<p>11.3.1.2 Transport Layer</p> <p>The Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based. Packets created by NIUs are transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes. All packets are comprised of cells: a header cell, an optional necker cell, and possibly one or more data cells (for packet definition see Figure 11.2; further descriptions of the packet can be found in the next subsection). The header and necker cells contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address. Formats for request packets and response packets are slightly different, with the key difference being the presence of an additional cell, the necker, in the request packet to provide detailed addressing information to the target.</p> <p><i>Id.</i> at 313.</p> <p>As yet a further illustration, packets in the Arteris NoC are “delivered as words that are sent along links and “[o]ne link (represented in Figure 11.1) defines the following signals,” which include “the current priority of the packet used to define preferred traffic class (or Quality of Service)” and “[f]low control”:</p>

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maximum cell-width (header, necker, and data cell) and the link-width. One link (represented in [Figure 11.1](#)) defines the following signals:

- **Data**—Data word of the width specified at design-time.
- **Frm**—When asserted high, indicates that a packet is being transmitted.
- **Head**—When asserted high, indicates the current word contains a packet header. When the link-width is smaller than single (SGL), the header transmission is split into several word transfers. However, the Head signal is asserted during the first transfer only.
- **TailOfs**—Packet tail: when asserted high, indicates that the current word contains the last packet cell. When the link-width is smaller than single (SGL), the last cell transmission is split into several word transfers. However, the Tail signal is asserted during the first transfer only.
- **Pres.**—Indicates the current priority of the packet used to define preferred traffic class (or Quality of Service). The width is fixed during the design time, allowing multiple pressure levels within the same NoC instance (bits 3–5 in [Figure 11.2](#)).
- **Vld**—Data valid: when asserted high, indicates that a word is being transmitted.
- **RxRdy**—Flow control: when asserted high, the receiver is ready to accept word. When de-asserted, the receiver is busy.

This signal set, which constitutes the Media Independent NoC Interface (MINI), is the foundation for NTTP communications.

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	<p><i>Id.</i> at 313-314.</p> <p>As a further example, the packets sent in the Arteris NoC are “composed of cells that are organized into fields, with each field carrying specific information,” including “Pres,” “Slave address” and “Slave offset”:</p> <table><tr><th>Field</th><th>Size</th><th>Function</th></tr><tr><td>Opcode</td><td>4 bits/3 bits</td><td>Packet type: 4 bits for requests, 3 bits for responses</td></tr><tr><td>MstAddr</td><td>User Defined</td><td>Master address</td></tr><tr><td>SlvAddr</td><td>User Defined</td><td>Slave address</td></tr><tr><td>SlvOfs</td><td>User Defined</td><td>Slave offset</td></tr><tr><td>Len</td><td>User Defined</td><td>Payload length</td></tr><tr><td>Tag</td><td>User Defined</td><td>Tag</td></tr><tr><td>Prs</td><td>User defined (0 to 2)</td><td>Pressure</td></tr><tr><td>BE</td><td>0 or 4 bits</td><td>Byte enables</td></tr><tr><td>CE</td><td>1 bit</td><td>Cell error</td></tr><tr><td>Data</td><td>32 bits</td><td>Packet payload</td></tr><tr><td>Info</td><td>User Defined</td><td>Information about services supported by the NoC</td></tr><tr><td>Err</td><td>1 bit</td><td>Error bit</td></tr></table>	Field	Size	Function	Opcode	4 bits/3 bits	Packet type: 4 bits for requests, 3 bits for responses	MstAddr	User Defined	Master address	SlvAddr	User Defined	Slave address	SlvOfs	User Defined	Slave offset	Len	User Defined	Payload length	Tag	User Defined	Tag	Prs	User defined (0 to 2)	Pressure	BE	0 or 4 bits	Byte enables	CE	1 bit	Cell error	Data	32 bits	Packet payload	Info	User Defined	Information about services supported by the NoC	Err	1 bit	Error bit
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	StartOfs	2 bits	Start offset
	StopOfs	2 bits	Stop offset
	WrpSize	4 bits	Wrap size
	Rsv	Variable	Reserved
	CtlId	4 bits/3 bits	Control identifier, for control packets only
	CtlInfo	Variable	Control information, for control packets only
	EvtId	User defined	Event identifier, for event packets only

35

29 28

25 24

15 14

5 4 3

0

Header

Necker

Data

Data

Info

Len

Master Address

Slave Address

Prs

Opcode

Tag

Err

Slave offset

StartOfs

StopOfs

BE

Data Byte

BE

Data Byte

BE

Data Byte

BE

Data Byte

BE

Data Byte

BE

Data Byte

BE

Data Byte

BE

Data Byte

32 31 30

27 26

20 19

14 13

5 4 3

0

Header

Data

Data

Rsv

Len

Info

Tag

Master Address

Prs

Opcode

CE

Data

CE

Data

FIGURE 11.2

NTTP packet structure.

Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, <https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0>, at 313, 314-315.

As a further example, “[i]nitiator NIU units...translate[] AHB transactions AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target

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	<p data-bbox="499 250 1869 402">NIU, that is, slave IP” and the “AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding” with the table “receiv[ing] 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size”:</p> <p data-bbox="520 461 1031 500">11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 521 1837 1170">Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p data-bbox="499 1224 1806 1300">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p>

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	<p>As further example, “[f]or the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2)”:</p> <p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always</p> <p><i>Id.</i> at 318.</p> <p>As a further illustration, the Arteris NoC implements Quality of Service (QoS) to “provide[] a regulation mechanism allowing specification of guarantees on some of the parameters related to the traffic”; “QoS, which includes guarantees of throughput and/or latency, is achieved by exploiting the signal pressure embedded into the NTTP packet definition” where the “pressure signal can be generated by the IP itself and is typically linked to a certain level of urgency with which the transaction will have to be completed”; and the “pressure information will be embedded in the NTTP packet at the NIU level”:</p>

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	<p>Quality of Service (QoS). The QoS is a very important feature in the inter-connect infrastructures because it provides a regulation mechanism allowing specification of guarantees on some of the parameters related to the traffic. Usually the end users are looking for guarantees on bandwidth and/or end-to-end communication latency. Different mechanisms and strategies have been proposed in the literature. For instance, in <i>Æthereal NoC</i> [11,24] proposed by NXP, a TDMA approach allows the specification of two traffic categories [25]: BE and GT.</p> <p>In the Arteris NoC, the QoS is achieved by exploiting the signal pressure embedded into the NTTP packet definition (Figures 11.1 and 11.2). The pressure</p>

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	<p>signal can be generated by the IP itself and is typically linked to a certain level of urgency with which the transaction will have to be completed. For example, we can imagine associating the generation of the pressure signal when a certain threshold has been reached in the FIFO of the corresponding IP. This pressure information will be embedded in the NTTP packet at the NIU level: packets that have pressure bits equal to zero will be considered without QoS; packets with a nonzero value of the pressure bit will indicate preferred traffic class.* Such a QoS mechanism offers immediate service to the most urgent inputs and variables, and fair service whenever there are multiple contending inputs of equal urgency (BE). Within switches, arbitration decisions favor preferred packets and allocate remaining bandwidth (after preferred packets are served) fairly to contending packets. When there are contending preferred packets at the same pressure level, arbitration decisions among them are also fair.</p> <p>The Arteris NoC supports the following four different traffic classes:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real time and low latency (RTLL)—Traffic flows that require the lowest possible latency. Sometimes it is acceptable to have brief intervals of longer latency as long as the average latency is low. Care must be taken to avoid starving other traffic flows as a side effect of pursuing low latency. • Guaranteed throughput (GT)—Traffic flows that must maintain their throughput over a relatively long time interval. The actual bandwidth needed can be highly variable even over long intervals. Dynamic pressure is employed for this traffic class. • Guaranteed bandwidth (GBW)—Traffic flows that require a guaranteed amount of bandwidth over a relatively long time interval. Over short periods, the network may lag or lead in providing this bandwidth. Bandwidth meters may be inserted onto links in the NoC to regulate these flows, using either of the two methods. If the flow is assigned high pressure, the meter asserts backpressure (flow control) to prevent the flow from exceeding a maximum bandwidth. Alternatively, the meter can modulate the flows pressure (priority) dynamically as needed to maintain an average bandwidth. • Best effort (BE)—Traffic flows that do not require guaranteed latency or throughput but have an expectation of fairness.

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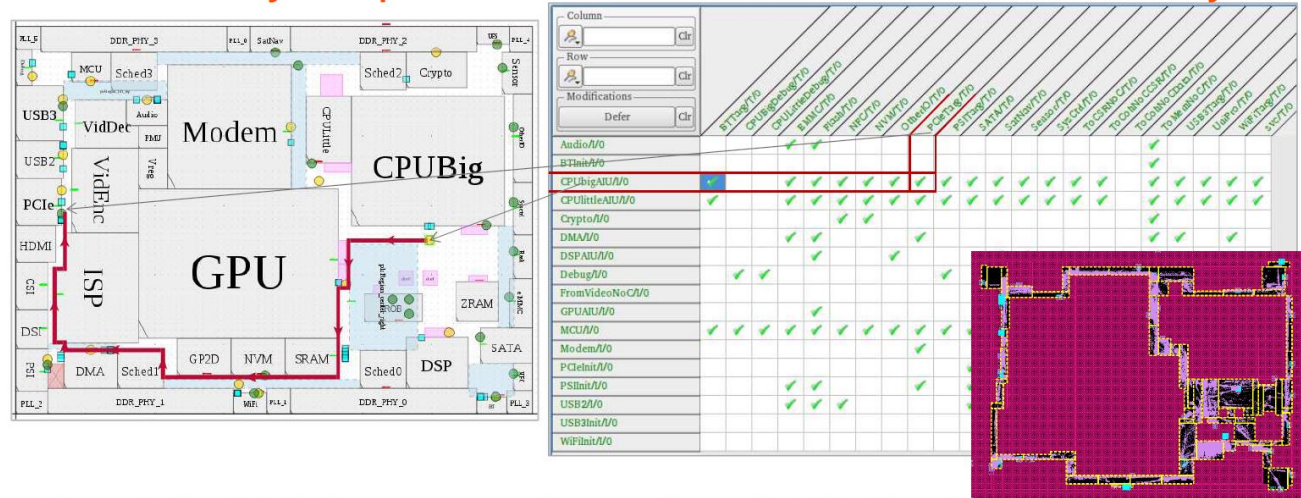
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* Note that in the NTTP packet, the pressure field allows more than one bit, resulting in multiple levels of preferred traffic.

Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, <https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0>, at 315-316.

Connections within the Arteris NoC may be defined by a connectivity table:

Connectivity Map → Interconnect Connections → Layout

- Connectivity table defines interconnect connections within the floorplan
- Routes must pass through available channels in the floorplan
- Connectivity passes from initiator NIU to switch, to link, to RC buffers and finally to target NIU

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See Physical Interconnect Aware Network Optimizer, http://www.ispd.cc/slides/2018/s7_2.pdf, at slide 12.

As a further illustration, connections within the Arteris NoC may be classified by traffic class and traffic classes, including related to latency, may be mapped onto the Arteris interconnect topology:

Memory NoC:
Interconnect Topology – Traffic Classes

Classify your IP connections per class of traffic:

Best Effort (BE)	Image system
Low Latency (LL)	SRAM
High Bandwidth (HB)	Main/Coherency

Column						
Row						
Modifications						
CSI/I/O		BE	BE	BE	BE	
DSI/I/O		BE	BE	BE	BE	
FromCohNoCMem/I/O	LL	HB	HB	HB	HB	✓
FromMainNoC/I/O	LL	HB	HB	HB	HB	✓
ISP/I/O		BE	BE	BE	BE	

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Memory NoC:
Traffic classes are mapped onto logical interconnect topology

Column	Row	Modifications	SRAM/T/O	Sched10/T/O	Sched11/T/O	Sched12/T/O	Sched13/T/O	SV
CSI/I/O			BE	BE	BE	BE		
DSI/I/O			BE	BE	BE	BE		
FromCohNoCMem/I/O			LL	HB	HB	HB	HB	✓
FromMainNoC/I/O			LL	HB	HB	HB	HB	✓
ISP/I/O				BE	BE	BE	BE	

The diagram on the right shows the mapping of traffic classes to logical interconnect topology. It illustrates the flow of data from various components (Main_region, Mem_region, AtomRegion) through a network of interconnects (LL, HB) to different destinations (BE, HB, LL/HB). The diagram shows a complex network of interconnects and data paths, with traffic classes mapped onto the logical interconnect topology.

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Memory Access Traffic Classes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cache Coherent (CC) within Compute Cluster Low Latency (LL) to SRAM High Bandwidth (HB) to DRAM & Cache Fill Best Effort (BE) for Peripherals & DMA QoS for Video Multiple functional NoCs interacting Physically Constrained <p style="text-align: center;">  ISPD 2018, 28 March 2018 Copyright © 2018 Arteris IP 11 </p> <p>See Physical Interconnect Aware Network Optimizer, http://www.ispd.cc/slides/2018/s7_2.pdf, at slides 11, 13, 16.</p>
(b) arranging, at said address translation unit, the first and the second	The Arteris NoC utilized by the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product arranges, at said address translation unit, the first and the second information comprising said issued message as a single address, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

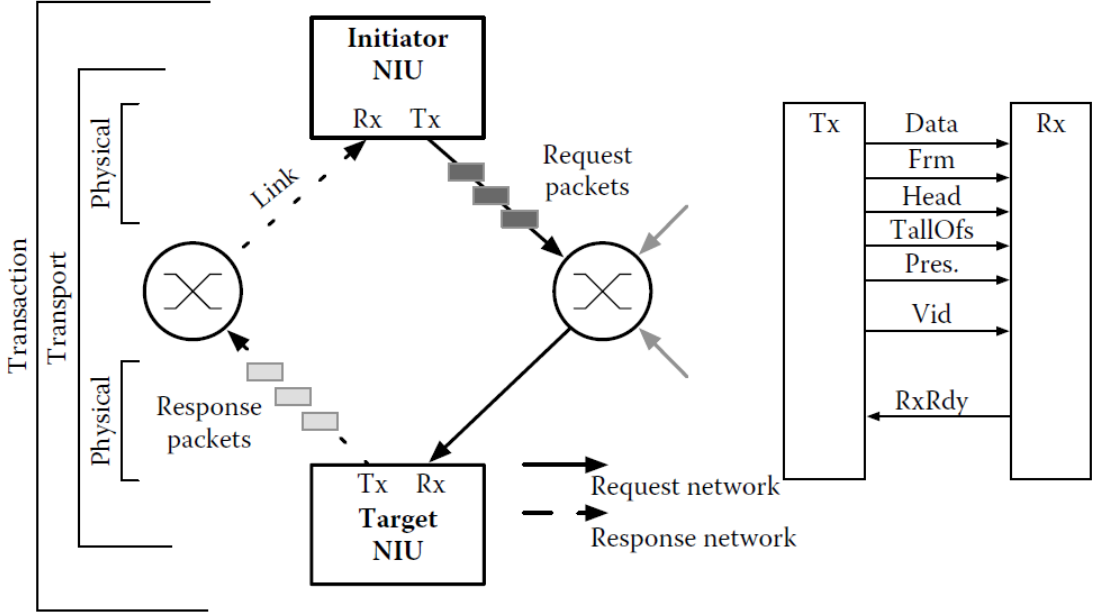
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information comprising said issued message as a single address,	<p>For example, the Arteris NoC used in the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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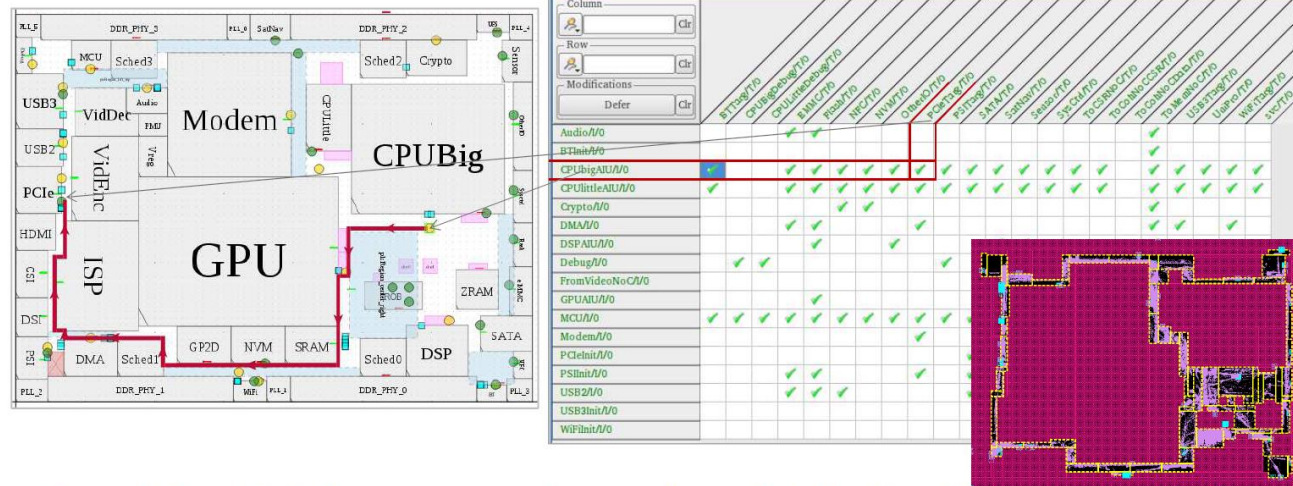
'9893 Patent Claim	Samsung Product Including Exynos System on Chip ¹
	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 312-313.</p> <p>As a further illustration, connections between initiator module NIUs (e.g., “CPUbigAIU/1/0”) and two or more target module NIUs (e.g., “ETTarg/T/0,” “EMMC/T/0,” “Flash/T/0,” “NFC/T0,” “PCIeTarg/T/0,” etc.) within the Arteris NoC may be defined by a connectivity table:</p>

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Connectivity Map → Interconnect Connections → Layout



DC-Topographical

- Connectivity table defines interconnect connections within the floorplan
- Routes must pass through available channels in the floorplan
- Connectivity passes from initiator NIU to switch, to link, to RC buffers and finally to target NIU

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As a further illustration, the “Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based” and the packets, which have “header and necker cells [that] contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address,” are “transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes”:

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	<p data-bbox="514 267 924 305">11.3.1.2 Transport Layer</p> <p data-bbox="514 321 1711 743">The Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based. Packets created by NIUs are transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes. All packets are comprised of cells: a header cell, an optional necker cell, and possibly one or more data cells (for packet definition see Figure 11.2; further descriptions of the packet can be found in the next subsection). The header and necker cells contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address. Formats for request packets and response packets are slightly different, with the key difference being the presence of an additional cell, the necker, in the request packet to provide detailed addressing information to the target.</p> <p data-bbox="514 763 640 795"><i>Id.</i> at 313.</p> <p data-bbox="514 844 1816 954">As a further example, the packets sent in the Arteris NoC are “composed of cells that are organized into fields, with each field carrying specific information,” including “Pres,” “Slave address” and “Slave offset”:</p>

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	Field	Size	Function
	Opcode	4 bits/3 bits	Packet type: 4 bits for requests, 3 bits for responses
	MstAddr	User Defined	Master address
	SlvAddr	User Defined	Slave address
	SlvOfs	User Defined	Slave offset
	Len	User Defined	Payload length
	Tag	User Defined	Tag
	Prs	User defined (0 to 2)	Pressure
	BE	0 or 4 bits	Byte enables
	CE	1 bit	Cell error
	Data	32 bits	Packet payload
	Info	User Defined	Information about services supported by the NoC
	Err	1 bit	Error bit
	StartOfs	2 bits	Start offset
	StopOfs	2 bits	Stop offset
	WrpSize	4 bits	Wrap size
	Rsv	Variable	Reserved
	CtlId	4 bits/3 bits	Control identifier, for control packets only
	CtlInfo	Variable	Control information, for control packets only
	EvtId	User defined	Event identifier, for event packets only

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'9893 Patent Claim	Samsung Product Including Exynos System on Chip ¹
	<p>FIGURE 11.2 NTTP packet structure.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 313, 314-315.</p> <p>As a further example, “[i]nitiator NIU units...translate[] AHB transactions AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP” and the “AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding” with the table “receiv[ing] 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size”:</p>

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'9893 Patent Claim	Samsung Product Including Exynos System on Chip ¹
	<p>11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p>Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p>
(c) determining, at said address translation unit, which message receiving module S is being addressed in said	<p>The Arteris NoC utilized by the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product determines, at said address translation unit, which message receiving module S is being addressed in said message request issued from said addressing module M based on said single address, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC used by the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB,</p>

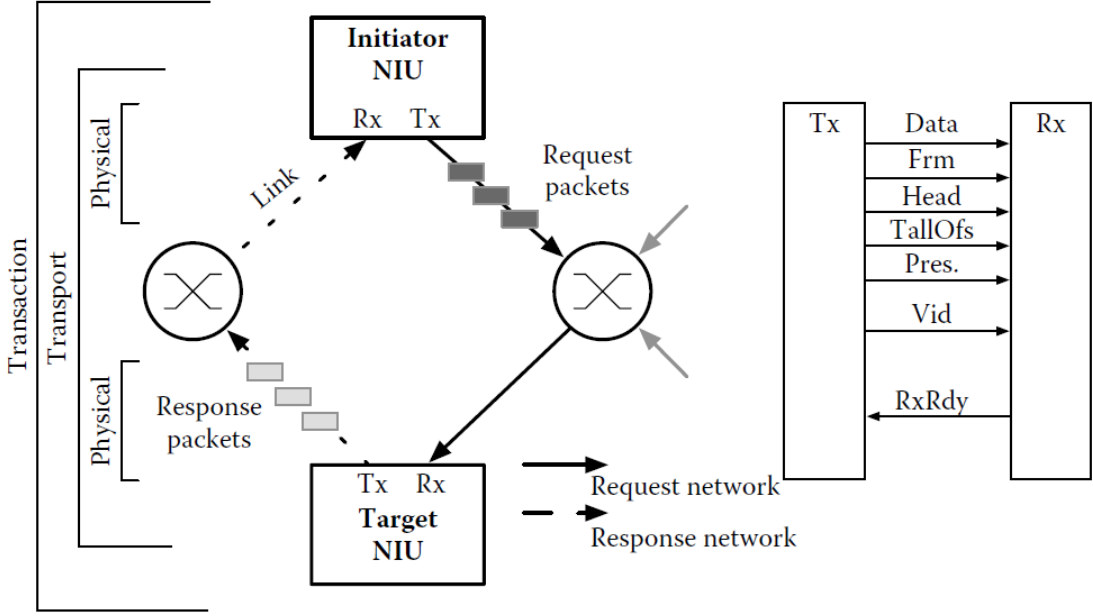
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message request issued from said addressing module M based on said single address, and	<p>and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p> <p>11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p>The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p>As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU’s transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p>

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	<p>on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 312-313.</p> <p>As a further illustration, the “Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based” and the packets, which have “header and necker cells [that] contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address,” are “transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="514 267 924 305">11.3.1.2 Transport Layer</p> <p data-bbox="514 321 1711 743">The Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based. Packets created by NIUs are transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes. All packets are comprised of cells: a header cell, an optional necker cell, and possibly one or more data cells (for packet definition see Figure 11.2; further descriptions of the packet can be found in the next subsection). The header and necker cells contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address. Formats for request packets and response packets are slightly different, with the key difference being the presence of an additional cell, the necker, in the request packet to provide detailed addressing information to the target.</p> <p data-bbox="514 763 640 800"><i>Id.</i> at 313.</p> <p data-bbox="514 844 1827 954">As a further example, the packets sent in the Arteris NoC are “composed of cells that are organized into fields, with each field carrying specific information,” including “Slave address” and “Slave offset”:</p>

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	Field	Size	Function
	Opcode	4 bits/3 bits	Packet type: 4 bits for requests, 3 bits for responses
	MstAddr	User Defined	Master address
	SlvAddr	User Defined	Slave address
	SlvOfs	User Defined	Slave offset
	Len	User Defined	Payload length
	Tag	User Defined	Tag
	Prs	User defined (0 to 2)	Pressure
	BE	0 or 4 bits	Byte enables
	CE	1 bit	Cell error
	Data	32 bits	Packet payload
	Info	User Defined	Information about services supported by the NoC
	Err	1 bit	Error bit
	StartOfs	2 bits	Start offset
	StopOfs	2 bits	Stop offset
	WrpSize	4 bits	Wrap size
	Rsv	Variable	Reserved
	CtlId	4 bits/3 bits	Control identifier, for control packets only
	CtlInfo	Variable	Control information, for control packets only
	EvtId	User defined	Event identifier, for event packets only

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	<p>FIGURE 11.2 NTTP packet structure.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 313, 314-315.</p> <p>As a further example, “[i]nitiator NIU units...translate[] AHB transactions AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP” and the “AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding” with the table “receiv[ing] 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size”:</p>

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	<p>11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p>Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p> <p>As further example, “[f]or the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2)”:</p>

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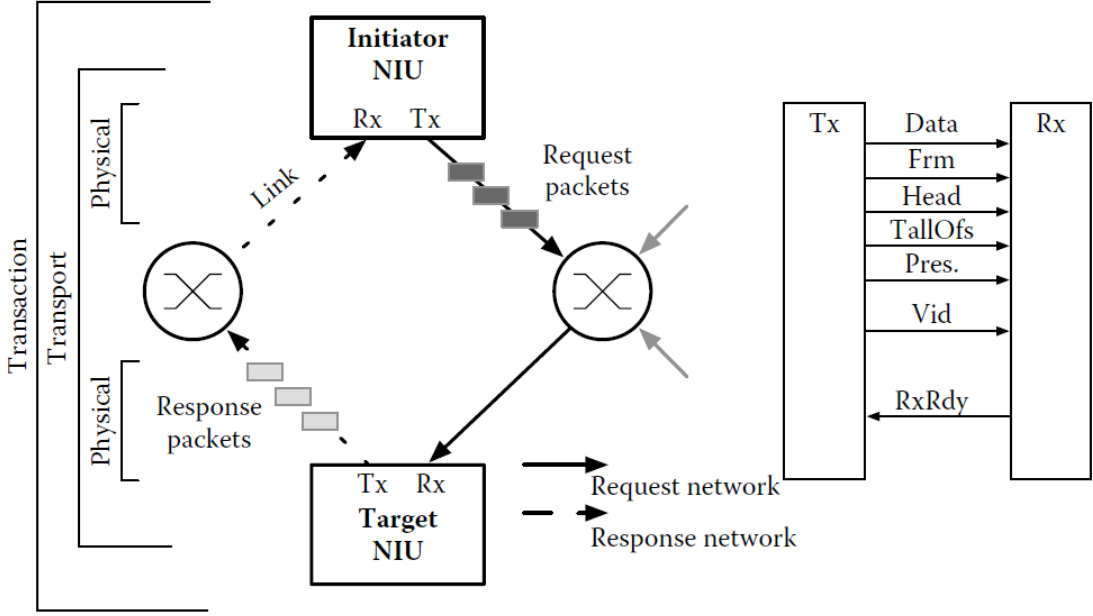
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	<p>11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p>Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always</p> <p><i>Id.</i> at 318.</p>
(d) further determining, at said address translation unit, the particular location within the addressed message receiving module S based on said single address.	<p>The Arteris NoC utilized by the Exynos SoC included in the Samsung product further determines, at said address translation unit, the particular location within the addressed message receiving module S based on said single address, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.</p> <p>For example, the Arteris NoC uses Network Interface Units (NIUs), which “translate[] between third-party [OCP, AMBA AHB, APB, and AXI protocols] and NTTP protocols” and in the Arteris NoC, “[m]ost transactions require the following two-step transfers,” including “[a] master send[ing] request packets” and “the slave return[ing] response packets”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="562 267 1018 308">11.3.1.1 Transaction Layer</p> <p data-bbox="562 324 1822 500">The transaction layer is compatible with bus-based transaction protocols used for on-chip communications. It is implemented in NIUs, which are at the boundary of the NoC, and translates between third-party and NTTP protocols. Most transactions require the following two-step transfers:</p> <ul data-bbox="636 544 1348 641" style="list-style-type: none"> • A master sends request packets. • Then, the slave returns response packets. <p data-bbox="562 685 1822 815">As shown in Figure 11.1, requests from an initiator are sent through the master NIU's transmit port, Tx, to the NoC request network, where they are routed to the corresponding slave NIU. Slave NIUs, upon reception of request packets</p> <p data-bbox="546 885 1843 1295">on their receive ports, Rx, translate requests so that they comply with the protocol used by the target third-party IP node. When the target node responds, returning responses are again converted by the slave NIU into appropriate response packets, then delivered through the slave NIU's Tx port to the response network. The network then routes the response packets to the requesting master NIU, which forwards them to the initiator. At the transaction level, NIUs enable multiple protocols to coexist within the same NoC. From the point of view of the NTTP modules, different third-party protocols are just packets moving back and forth across the network.</p>

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	 <p>FIGURE 11.1 NTTP protocol layers mapped on NoC units and Media Independent NoC Interface—MINI.</p> <p>See Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 312-313.</p> <p>As a further illustration, the “Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based” and the packets, which have “header and necker cells [that] contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address,” are “transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="514 267 924 305">11.3.1.2 Transport Layer</p> <p data-bbox="514 321 1711 743">The Arteris NTTP protocol is packet-based. Packets created by NIUs are transported to other parts of the NoC to accomplish the transactions that are required by foreign IP nodes. All packets are comprised of cells: a header cell, an optional necker cell, and possibly one or more data cells (for packet definition see Figure 11.2; further descriptions of the packet can be found in the next subsection). The header and necker cells contain information relative to routing, payload size, packet type, and the packet target address. Formats for request packets and response packets are slightly different, with the key difference being the presence of an additional cell, the necker, in the request packet to provide detailed addressing information to the target.</p> <p data-bbox="514 766 640 799"><i>Id.</i> at 313.</p> <p data-bbox="514 847 1837 954">As a further example, the packets sent in the Arteris NoC are “composed of cells that are organized into fields, with each field carrying specific information,” including “Slave address” and “Slave offset”:</p>

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	Field	Size	Function
	Opcode	4 bits/3 bits	Packet type: 4 bits for requests, 3 bits for responses
	MstAddr	User Defined	Master address
	SlvAddr	User Defined	Slave address
	SlvOfs	User Defined	Slave offset
	Len	User Defined	Payload length
	Tag	User Defined	Tag
	Prs	User defined (0 to 2)	Pressure
	BE	0 or 4 bits	Byte enables
	CE	1 bit	Cell error
	Data	32 bits	Packet payload
	Info	User Defined	Information about services supported by the NoC
	Err	1 bit	Error bit
	StartOfs	2 bits	Start offset
	StopOfs	2 bits	Stop offset
	WrpSize	4 bits	Wrap size
	Rsv	Variable	Reserved
	CtlId	4 bits/3 bits	Control identifier, for control packets only
	CtlInfo	Variable	Control information, for control packets only
	EvtId	User defined	Event identifier, for event packets only

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	<p>FIGURE 11.2 NTTP packet structure.</p> <p>Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 313, 314-315.</p> <p>As a further example, “[i]nitiator NIU units...translate[] AHB transactions AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP” and the “AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding” with the table “receiv[ing] 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 264 1031 305">11.3.2.1 Initiator NIU Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 323 1835 976">Initiator NIU units (the architecture of the AHB initiator is given in Figure 11.4) enable connection between an AMBA-AHB master IP and the NoC. It translates AHB transactions into an equivalent NTTP packet sequence, and transports requests and responses to and from a target NIU, that is, slave IP (slave can be any of the supported protocols). The AHB-to-NTTP unit instantiates a Translation Table for address decoding. This table receives 32-bit AHB addresses from the NIU and returns the packet header and necker information that is needed to access the NTTP address space: Slave address, Slave offset, Start offset, and the coherency size (see Figure 11.2). Whenever the AHB address does not fit the predefined decoding range, the table asserts an error signal that sets the error bit of the corresponding NTTP request packet, for further error handling by the NoC. The translation table is fully user-defined at design time: it must first be completed with its own hardware parameters, then passed to the NIU.</p> <p data-bbox="520 1027 1803 1101">Networks-On-Chips Theory and Practice, https://vdoc.pub/download/networks-on-chips-theory-and-practice-embedded-multi-core-systems-6f26qivv11f0, at 317.</p> <p data-bbox="520 1144 1877 1260">As further example, “[f]or the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2)”:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="520 277 1003 321">11.3.2.2 Target NIU Units</p> <p data-bbox="520 337 1858 667">Target NIU units enable connection of a slave IP to the NoC by translating NTTP packet sequences into equivalent packet transactions, and transporting requests and responses to and from targets (the architecture of the AHB Target NIU is given in Figure 11.5). For the AHB target NIU, the AHB address space is mapped from the NTTP address space using the slave offset, the start/stop offset, and the slave address fields, when applicable (from the header of the request packet, Figure 11.2). The AHB address bus is always</p> <p data-bbox="499 724 634 756"><i>Id.</i> at 318.</p>